

RFI 9) In that report, a Winter Storm is categorized as a **Highly Likely** event with a **Minor Severity**. This means that it was projected to occur within the next year with an impact that includes complete shutdown of critical facilities for more than one week. Given this prognostication, why did we still have water failure? The 2015 COSA Hazard Mitigation Plan did not anticipate a wide area of sustained power outage, or an extreme freeze similar to the February 2021 event. It did not assess widespread power outages originating within the ERCOT grid, and also stated that outages from the North American power grid would not impact Texas. This is clearly evident with the “MINOR SEVERITY” impact identified in the finding.

In fact, the report credited the configuration of the SAWS water system (highly redundant, interconnected and non-centralized treatment facilities) with the ability to reduce risks. *“The analysis demonstrated pressure reductions associated with power loss in most scenarios would be adequately compensated by redundant pumping capabilities.”* However, the report notes that the loss of multiple pump stations in critical pressure zones may result in pressure losses.